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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/584,252

02/19/2007

Armin Elser

3777

1693

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7590

04/07/2009

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EXAMINER

LE, DANG D

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2834

MAIL DATE

DELIVERY MODE

04/07/2009

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/584,252	Applicant(s) ELSER ET AL.	
	Examiner Dang D. Le	Art Unit 2834	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-15 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-15 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 23 June 2006 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☒ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 3. ☒ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____. |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>1/09, 8/06, 6/06</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____. |

DETAILED ACTION

Information Disclosure Statement

1. The listing of references in the specification is not a proper information disclosure statement. 37 CFR 1.98(b) requires a list of all patents, publications, or other information submitted for consideration by the Office, and MPEP § 609.04(a) states, "the list may not be incorporated into the specification but must be submitted in a separate paper." Therefore, unless the references have been cited by the examiner on form PTO-892, they have not been considered.

Specification

2. The abstract of the disclosure is objected to because it contains 2 paragraphs. Correction is required. See MPEP § 608.01(b).

Drawings

3. The drawings are objected to under 37 CFR 1.83(a). The drawings must show every feature of the invention specified in the claims. Therefore, the length in claim 4 and the groups in claim 10 must be shown or the feature(s) canceled from the claim(s). No new matter should be entered.

Corrected drawing sheets in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. Any amended replacement drawing sheet should include all of the figures appearing on the immediate prior version of the sheet, even if only one figure is being amended. The figure or figure number of an amended drawing should not be labeled as "amended." If a drawing figure

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is to be canceled, the appropriate figure must be removed from the replacement sheet, and where necessary, the remaining figures must be renumbered and appropriate changes made to the brief description of the several views of the drawings for consistency. Additional replacement sheets may be necessary to show the renumbering of the remaining figures. Each drawing sheet submitted after the filing date of an application must be labeled in the top margin as either "Replacement Sheet" or "New Sheet" pursuant to 37 CFR 1.121(d). If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Claim Objections

4. Claims 4 and 10 are objected to because of the following informalities: it is not clear what length is compared to and how the groups are divided. Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

5. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

6. Claims 1-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Asao (6,538,352).

Regarding claim 1, Asao shows an electric machine (Figure 3), in particular an alternator for motor vehicles, having a stator (15), which supports a stator winding (16)

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that has winding ends (16r), having a voltage regulator assembly (18), and having a rectifier (120), wherein the electrical connection between the winding ends (near 50) and the rectifier is situated underneath the voltage regulator assembly (18).

Regarding claim 2, Asao also shows the electrical connection being partially situated between the stator winding (16) and an end plate (2) and preferably, underneath a support (50).

Regarding claim 3, Asao also shows the electrical connection between a winding end and an electrical connection of a connecting plate being achieved by means of an interposed conductor element (column 8, lines 5-10).

Regarding claim 4, Asao also shows with regard to an axial direction of the stator, the electrical connection has a shorter length in the cross sectional direction than in the circumferential direction.

Regarding claim 5, Asao also shows wherein the stator (15) being connected to the interposed conductor element (Figure 3) and is able to be inserted as a unit into an end plate (on support 50).

Regarding claim 6, Asao also shows a junction, preferably a weld, between the conductor element and the electrical connection of the connecting plate being oriented essentially perpendicular to the axial direction of the stator (near 50, Figure 3).

Regarding claim 7, Asao also shows an insulating piece (surface of 50) partially covering the electrical connection.

Regarding claim 8, Asao also shows the insulating piece (surface of 50) covering a junction between the winding ends and the conductor element.

Regarding claim 9, Asao also shows the insulating piece attaching a plurality of electrical connections to one another (three phases).

Regarding claim 10, Asao also shows three electrical connections (three phases), preferably conductor elements, being provided, which are divided up into two groups.

Regarding claim 11, Asao also shows a stator for an electric machine, in particular for an alternator for motor vehicles, having a stator (15), which supports a stator winding (16) that has winding ends (16r), wherein the winding ends (near 50) are connected to an additional conductor element (35, Figure 3), which joins a plurality of individual wires of the winding ends (three phases) together by means of a clamp-like junction region (insert conductors) and is embodied in the form of a sheet metal part (50 and Figure 4).

Regarding claim 12, Asao also shows the conductor element (35) extending essentially radially inward (bottom to top Figure 3).

Regarding claim 13, Asao also shows the insulating piece (surface of 50) partially covering the conductor element (35).

Regarding claim 14, Asao also shows the insulating piece (surface of 50) partially covering a junction between the winding ends and the conductor element (Figure 3).

Regarding claim 15, Asao also shows an insulating piece (surface of 50) joining a plurality of conductor elements together and determines a relative position among the conductor elements (three phases).

Information on How to Contact USPTO

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7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Dang D. Le whose telephone number is (571) 272-2027. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Quyen Leung can be reached on (571) 272-8188. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Dang D Le/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2834

3/27/09